



Chris Owens  
Director

I don't usually make personal requests but it is time to ask:

Can you give 2-3 hours a month? Do you think the safety of children is important? Please consider becoming a volunteer for a Citizen Foster Care Review Board. (A training will... be held Oct 4th.)

There are reasons I am not the best person to be doing these reviews. But I'm still there because as time passes there are fewer volunteers - not fewer cases.

Would it matter if you knew KY has one of the highest abuse & neglect child fatality rates in the country? OR that domestic violence is a key factor in child fatalities? In 2012 DV was the most frequent risk factor identified in KY child fatalities and near fatalities. (p. 9) [KY report](#)

There was a call for volunteers in [January](#). In February OFW sent out [a call with links to more information](#).

For information about KY Citizen Foster Care Review Boards dial 1-800-928-2350.

## Intimate Violence within Intimate Communities– Sept. 23rd



**LAST CALL:** If you are not registered, there is limited open seating for the September 23rd workshop. Participants must be registered by Friday, September 20th.

### Intimate Violence Within Intimate Communities

- September 23, 2013 8:30am-12:30pm
- At Home of the Innocents

Who should attend? Anyone working with or serving, immigrant, refugee or limited English speaking populations.

[More Information & Registration](#) (CEUS available, no charge)

This workshop is presented by CIVIC. Who is CIVIC?

See this [2012 Article](#).

## Summer 2013 Update—Safe Havens Program Louisville Metro Visitation & Exchange Center

*By Katherine Tillett, Safe Havens Outreach*

This summer has been busy for the Louisville Metro Visitation and Exchange Center (LMVEC). 1,026 times during June and July, we helped adult and child survivors of domestic violence stay safe while children spent time with their visiting parents.

Our program has begun strategic planning to prepare for serious funding challenges looming in the near future. Primary funding for LMVEC services has been provided by the Federal Department of Justice through the Office on Violence against Women since fall of 2003. Our Safe Havens grant funding these services is scheduled to end December 31, 2014. Going forward, the Safe Havens grant program will no longer be a stand-alone grant program, but one of several program areas competing for the same federal dollars. Despite having one of the largest, longest running programs continually funded by DOJ and LMVEC's stellar review during a federal site visit in June, it is highly possible federal funding will be absent or greatly reduced for LMVEC after December 2014.

In response, we have been reaching out to the community to help brainstorm creative new ways LMVEC might support families who are presently ineligible for services due to restrictions in the Safe Havens grant, as well as new funding possibilities. One such potential future service currently being explored as a pilot program through the Metro Office for Women is virtual visitation, which would allow secure and monitored visits between a parent and children over the internet. So far, potential participants have included families in which a parent is incarcerated, families in which the child is afraid to consent to a face-to-face visit, and parents unable to visit with children in person due to distance. We know there are many families who need the safety LMVEC provides and many different forms these services could take. We would love to hear your ideas on how we might grow LMVEC in the future to better meet the varied safety needs of families with a history of domestic violence. Please let us know if you have questions or comments: [ofw@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:ofw@louisvilleky.gov).

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